



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: Dec. 9, 2005

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**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES NEARLY 2,600 DWI ARRESTS IN FIRST THREE WEEKS
OF WINTER 'BOOZE IT & LOSE IT' CAMPAIGN**

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that 2,596 motorists statewide have been charged with driving while impaired (DWI) offenses during the first three weeks of the winter “Booze It & Lose It” campaign. The arrests were made by state and local law enforcement officers during checkpoints and stepped-up patrols between Nov. 17 and Dec. 4.

“I am grateful to the hundreds of law enforcement officers across our state who are working around the clock to remove impaired drivers from our roadways,” Easley said. “These arrests should serve as a reminder to people during the holiday season. If your celebrations include alcohol and you plan to drink, be sure that you have a designated driver.”

“Booze It & Lose It” is in its 11th year as a program of the Governor’s Highway Safety Program (GHSP). It serves as the model for the national “You Drink, You Drive, You Lose” initiative.

As part of the winter enforcement campaign, nearly 6,000 checkpoints and patrols have been conducted statewide. A total of 372 DWI charges were made against drivers younger than 21 and 2,224 charges were made against drivers 21 and older.

In addition to DWI charges, officers issued 6,804 occupant restraint charges, including safety belt and child passenger safety violations. A total of 29,116 speeding violations also were issued, 127 stolen vehicles were recovered and 37 wanted persons were apprehended. Traffic and criminal violations issued for the state totaled 82,400.

“Booze It & Lose It” will continue through Jan. 1, 2006. Statewide citation totals include:

	DWI	Occupant Protection		Traffic Violations		Criminal Violations		Totals	Other Offenses*	
Total Checkpoints and Patrols	Driving While Impaired Violations	Safety Belt Violations	Child Passenger Safety Violations	Speeding	Total Traffic Violations	Drug Violations	Total Criminal Violations	Total Traffic & Criminal Violations	Stolen Vehicles Recovered	Fugitives Arrested
5,983	2,596	5,766	1,038	29,116	68,792	1,516	4,199	82,400	127	37

*These columns are not counted into overall total of violations. Data compiled by the N.C. State Highway Patrol.

For county-by-county citation data or information regarding other North Carolina highway safety issues, call the GHSP at 919/733-3083, or visit it website at: www.ncdot.org/secretary/ghsp.

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